

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 12-39 are pending in this application, with claims 8-11 being cancelled by this Amendment and claims 16-39 being newly presented for examination. Claims 1-15 currently stand rejected, and claims 1 and 12-15 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over US Pat 6,385,289 to Maruyama et al. (“Maruyama”) in view of US Pat 6,594,442 to Kageyama et al. (“Kageyama”) This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons detailed below.

With regard to claim 1, the Examiner states that Maruyama and Kageyama together teach each and every element of that claim. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims have been amended to clarify that a “data area” stores images, a “playlist area” stores “mark information,” and a “management area” stores “clip information files.” That is, three distinct areas store images, markings, and clip information. Maruyama fails to disclose a distinct management area containing clip information files associated with the images in the data area. Rather, Maruyama places all control data together. *See* FIG. 3, element DA21; FIG. 11, element 86.

Kageyama does not cure the disclosure and suggestion deficiency of Maruyama. Kageyama discloses all audio and data within an area VOB, controlled by VOB information. *See* Fig. 12, elements STILL IMAGE #1, #2, AUDIO #1, and VOB labels. Thus Kageyama does not disclose a management area containing clip information files as recited in claim 1 as amended.

Because Maruyama, alone or in combination with Kageyama, fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1 as amended, these references cannot anticipate or render obvious claim 1. Claims 12-15 recite the same unique feature as amended claim 1 discussed above and are thus equally allowable over the references alone or in combination. Claims 2-7 are allowable at least for depending from a valid base claim. Withdrawal of the rejection under § 103(a) to claims 1-7 and 12-15 is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner does not find the above arguments persuasive, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner specifically identify what portions of the art of record are believed to correspond to the (1) playlist file, (2) mark information providing presentation information for skipping, (3) clip information files, and (4) mapping information.

New Claims 16-39

Claims 16-39 have been newly presented for examination by this Amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 16-39 are allowable over the art of record at least for depending from an allowable base claim discussed above. Allowance of new claims 16-39 is respectfully requested.

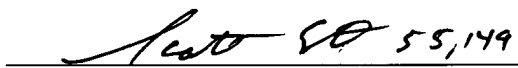
CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
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GDY/REA